

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of January 29, 2009 issued with respect to the present application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to specify that the memory vector is comprised of variables holding updatable consumable state data of the printer consumable. Support for these amendments can be found, for example, at page 41, line 25-page 43, line 18, page 63, line 1-page 65, line 15 and page 95, lines 13-17 of the present specification; and dependent claims 2, 4, 5 and 7-10 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2, 4, 5 and 7-10 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by any one or more of previously cited Carmon, Sony, Spies and Schneier in view of newly cited Merritt et al. (US 5,475,756), because the "serial number" disclosed by Merritt is clearly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art as not being updatable consumable state data, as is required by the claimed invention, and therefore no combination of the cited references of record with Merritt would result in the claimed invention.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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